[25th January 1928

Prohibition of the sale of intoxicants in Cuddapah.

*1472 *Q.*—Mr. A. Parasurama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any memorials have been submitted to Government by the people of some of the villages of Cuddapah district requesting them that the prohibition of the sale of intoxicants may be started in Cuddapah district as an experiment to give effect to the resolution passed by this House accepting the goal of complete prohibition to be reached within twenty years;

(*b*) how many such memorials have been received;

(*c*) what action has been taken on them and if no action has been taken till now, whether the hon. the Minister will be pleased to inform the House as to when, how and where he proposes to start the prohibition campaign;

(*d*) whether he has any and what objection to start the prohibition in the two districts of Cuddapah and Nellore as suggested in the memorials above referred to; and

(*e*) if the hon. the Minister decides to start the prohibition in the two districts, whether he proposes to take into confidence the members of this House who represent those districts and decide as to the *modus operandi* to be followed in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.
(*b*) Nine.
(*c*) *to* (*e*) No action has been taken on the memorials. The question of introducing total prohibition is still being examined by the Government.

Licences to European liquor shops.

*1473 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. Saldanha: With reference to the answer to my question No. 996 answered on 1st November 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of European liquor shops licensed in the five taluks in this Presidency in which the production and sale of, and traffic in, arrack have been prohibited together with the names of the licence-holders and the period for which they have been holding the licences;

(*b*) whether consumption of European liquors has increased in those taluks; and

(*c*) the grounds on which the import and sale of European liquors are permitted?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (*a*) of question No. 198 answered at the meeting held on 3rd March 1927. The Government are not in possession of later information concerning the number of foreign liquor shops in the five taluks or of any information on the other points specified in the question.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the Commissioner's report on the working of the experiment, which was placed on the table of the House on 3rd March 1927 as an appendix to the answer to question No. 198.